

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY PARIS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3397
INFO ALL OECD CAPITALS
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AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OECD, CIEC, EGEN, ETRD, EFIN, EAID, ENRG

SUBJECT: CIEC MINISTERIAL: FIRST DAY (MAY 30)

1. SUMMARY: FIRST DAY OF CIEC MINISTERIAL MEETING CONSISTED ENTIRELY OF SPEECHES, PRIMARILY BY INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRY DELEGATES. THESE SPEAKERS EMPHASIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF THE N/S DIALOGUE AND STRONGLY SUPPORTED THE G-8 PACKAGE OF PROPOSALS, INCLUDING THE SPECIAL ACTION PROGRAM, AS REPRESENTING CONCRETE AND MEANINGFUL RESULTS FROM CIEC. SECRETARY VANCE'S SPEECH WAS WELL RECEIVED. THE TWO G-19 SPEAKERS, PEREZ-GUERRERO, AS CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRMAN, AND PERUVIAN FOREIGN MINISTER DE LA PUENTE, TOOK THE PREDICTABLE LINE THAT THE RESULTS TO DATE WERE INSUFFICIENT AND THE G-8 MINISTERS MUST ENRICH THE PACKAGE FOR CIEC TO CONCLUDE SUCCESSFULLY. TUESDAY'S SESSION WILL COMMENCE WITH THE FORMAL G-19 RESPONSE TO THE G-8 POSITIONS, FOLLOWED BY MINISTERIAL NEGOTIATION ON THE UNRESOLVED ISSUES IN THREE SEPARATE GROUPS. END SUMMARY.

2. FRENCH FOREIGN MINISTER DE GUIRINGAUD OPENED THE CIEC MINISTERIAL MEETING BY PRAISING THE WORK AND SPIRIT OF CIEC. HE CALLED ON THE MINISTERS TO FIND THE NECESSARY COMPROMISES TO MAKE THE CONFERENCE SUCCEED AND CONTRIBUTE TO A MORE RATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER.

3. G-19 CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRMAN PEREZ-GUERRERO TOOK THE EXPECTED POSITION THAT THE RESULTS OF CIEC TO DATE WERE INADEQUATE. CALLING FOR A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER BASED ON JUSTICE AND RATIONALITY, HE SAID A LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CONTINUATION OF A WIDENING GAP IN INCOME BETWEEN THE DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WAS A ROAD LEADING TO "DISASTER". LDCE PURCHASING POWER MUST BE STRENGTHENED AND PROTECTED, A NEW INTERNATIONAL DIVISION OF LABOR CREATED, DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE INCREASED, AND PROGRESS MADE ON THE QUESTION OF INDEBTEDNESS. HE SAID THE LDCE WOULD INCREASE THEIR STRENGTH THROUGH THEIR SOLIDARITY, BUT THAT THIS SOLIDARITY

WOULD NOT BE DIRECTED AGAINST ANY GROUP OF COUNTRIES. HE NOTED THE "REFRESHING SPIRIT" THAT HAD RECENTLY CHARACTERIZED CIEC AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE -- NOT YET REALIZED -- THAT THE CONFERENCE WOULD CONTRIBUTE TO PROGRESS IN THE NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE, WHICH SHOULD CONTINUE WITHIN THE UN STRUCTURE. THUS, THE MINISTERIAL MEETING HAD A DECISIVE ROLE TO PLAY, HE SAID.

4. G-8 CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRMAN MACEACHEN FOLLOWED WITH

AN UPBEAT STATEMENT, DESCRIBING CIEC AS A UNIQUE STEP
ALONG THE ROAD TO A NEW GLOBAL ORDER. HE STRESSED THE
NEED TO FOCUS ON ISSUES WHERE CONCRETE ADVANCES WERE
POSSIBLE. HE CALLED ON THE MINISTERS TO GO BEYOND THEIR
BRIEFS AND SEEK THE APPROPRIATE MIDDLE GROUND IN ORDER
TO BRING CIEC TO A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION, WHILE
RECOGNIZING THE IMPOSSIBILITY OF REORDERING THE WORLD
IN THREE DAYS. CALLING FOR COMMITMENTS AT THE GLOBAL
LEVEL BASED ON SOCIAL JUSTICE AS WELL AS ECONOMIC POWER,

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HE SAID THE NEW NORTH/SOUTH DYNAMIC MUST CONTINUE TO
BE PURSUED AND PROMOTED AFTER CIEC, TO THE BENEFIT OF
ALL.

5. UN SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM EXPRESSED THE HOPE
THAT CIEC WOULD LEAD TO A BREAKTHROUGH IN PRACTICAL
RESULTS AND PROVIDE FRESH IMPETUS TO ON-GOING
NEGOTIATIONS ELSEWHERE. HE SAID CIEC HAD CLARIFIED
COMPLEX PROBLEMS AND FOCUSED NATIONS' ATTENTION ON
PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS RATHER THAN RHETORIC, BUT THAT
FUTURE COOPERATIVE EFFORTS SHOULD TAKE PLACE IN THE
UN SYSTEM. HE SAID THE CREATION OF A MORE JUST AND
RATIONAL WORLD REQUIRED THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY
TO PROVIDE LONG-TERM ASSISTANCE TO THE POOREST COUNTRIES
ENSURE STABILITY OF THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL SYSTEM,
AND INFUSE POLITICAL WILL INTO IMPENDING NEGOTIATIONS,
SUCH AS THAT OF THE COMMON FUND. HE SUPPORTED A
CONTINUING DIALOGUE ON ENERGY WITHIN THE UN FRAMEWORK.

6. IN A CONCISE AND EFFECTIVE PRESENTATION, UK
FOREIGN MINISTER OWEN ELABORATED THE EUROPEAN
COMMUNITY'S "DEEP COMMITMENT" TO CONSTANT PROGRESS
IN THE PERMANENT NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE. OWEN SAID THE
DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES WERE BOUND
TOGETHER BY A MORAL AND ECONOMIC IMPERATIVE AND CITED
BALANCE OF PAYMENTS, TRADE, ENERGY AND FINANCE AS
IMPORTANT AREAS OF INTERDEPENDENCE. CONTRASTING THE
CHANGES IN THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SITUATION OVER
THE PAST EIGHTEEN MONTHS, OWEN EMPHASIZED THE PROGRESS
THAT HAD BEEN ACHIEVED IN COMMON FUND NEGOTIATIONS,
COMPENSATORY FINANCING, PRICE STABILIZATION, ODA, DEBT,
ENERGY AND INVESTMENT. OWEN ANNOUNCED THE INDUSTRIALIZED
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COUNTRIES' SPECIAL ACTION PROGRAM OF ADDITIONAL AND QUICK DISBURSING AID FOR LOWEST INCOME COUNTRIES OF \$L BILLION, CONDITIONED UPON A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF CIEC. RECOGNIZING THAT CIEC COULD NOT SOLVE ALL PROBLEMS, OWEN CALLED FOR A CONTINUATION OF THE NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE IN OTHER FORA.

7. OWEN'S SPEECH WAS FOLLOWED BY BRIEF REMARKS EC COMMISSION PRESIDENT JENKINS. HE AFFIRMED THAT THE EC IS BOTH THE LARGEST CUSTOMER OF AND SUPPLIER TO LDCS, AND POINTED TO THE LOME CONVENTION AND THE COMMUNITY'S PIONEERING ROLE OF THE GENERALIZED SYSTEM OF PREFERENCES AS EVIDENCE OF STRONG EC SUPPORT FOR THE NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE.

8. SECRETARY VANCE WAS THE FIRST SPEAKER DURING THE AFTERNOON SESSION. SUBSEQUENTLY, A NUMBER OF DELEGATES COMMENTED FAVORABLY ON THE SPEECH (SEPTEL) TO USDEL. UNDER SECRETARY COOPER BRIEFED PRESS ON BACKGROUND PRIOR TO DELIVERY OF THE SPEECH.

9. FOREIGN MINISTER DEL LA PUENTE ADDRESSED THE CONFERENCE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE SECRETARY, SINCE HE HAD TO RETURN TO LIMA ON AN UNSPECIFIED EMERGENCY MATTER. RECALLING HIS EXPERIENCE AS FIRST CO-CHAIRMAN

OF RAW MATERIALS COMMISSION, DE LA PUENTE REGRETTED THAT AFTER EIGHTEEN MONTHS, THE G-19 AND G-8 WERE STILL TALKING ON "DIFFERENT WAVELENGTHS." THE "UNDERLYING PROBLEM" OF THE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMY WAS ONE OF STRUCTURE. ACCEPTING THAT THE G-8 WOULD DEFEND A SYSTEM WHICH THEY CONTROL AND BENEFIT FROM, HE SAID WAYS MUST BE FOUND TO "AVOID THE POOR OF WORLD FROM BECOMING POORER." DE LA PUENTE SAID THE G-19 "WOULD HAVE BEEN IMPRESSED" SEVERAL YEARS AGO WITH THE \$L BILLION LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SPECIAL ACTION BUT THAT IT DID NOT MEET CURRENT NEEDS FOR STRUCTURAL CHANGES IN TRADE AND THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY SYSTEM. DE LA PUENTE COMMENTED EXTENSIVELY ON LACK OF AGREEMENT AT CIEC, INDICATING A PREFERENCE BY THE G-77 FOR THE "NATURAL HABITAT" OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND UNCTAD FOR NEGOTIATIONS. THE "MAJOR TRIUMPH" OF CIEC WAS ITS NON-CONFRONTATIONAL MANNER, DE LA PUENTE NOTED, BUT HOPED THE COMMUNIQUE WOULD BE "STRAIGHT FORWARD" CATALOGUING AGREEMENTS AND DISAGREEMENTS SO THE PUBLIC COULD JUDGE WHETHER OR NOT CIEC WAS A SUCCESS.

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10. JAPANESE ECONOMIC PLANNING MINISTER KURANARI CITED PROGRESS IN THE FOUR AREAS OF WORK IN CIEC. IN ENERGY, HE POINTED PARTICULARLY TO THE IMPORTANCE OF THE DIALOGUE ON ENERGY BOTH IN CIEC AND IN THE POST-CIEC ERA, SINCE THERE IS NO OTHER COMPREHENSIVE FORUM AVAILABLE. IN RAW MATERIALS, HE SUPPORTED THE PRINCIPLE OF "A" COMMON FUND AND AN INTEGRATED COMMODITIES PROGRAM INCLUDING COMPENSATORY FINANCING TO STABILIZE EXPORT EARNINGS. REGARDING DEVELOPMENT AND FINANCIAL ISSUES, KURANARI ANNOUNCED JAPAN'S INTENTION TO "MORE THAN DOUBLE" ITS AID IN FIVE YEARS AND TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE CAPITAL INCREASES OF THE IBRD.

11. CANADIAN MINISTER OF ENERGY GILLESPIE AFFIRMED THE CANADIAN PLEDGE TO REDUCE THE GAP BETWEEN THE WEALTH OF THE FEW AND THE POVERTY OF THE MANY." HE SAID CANADA WOULD "CONTINUE TO WORK TOWARD THE 0.7 PER CENT TARGET FOR ODA, CITING ITS FY 77 BUDGET COMMITMENT OF \$1.1 BILLION. IF CIEC IS SUCCESSFUL, CANADA

WILL PARTICIPATE IN THE SPECIAL ACTION PROGRAM BY CONVERTING TO GRANTS ALL PAST DEVELOPMENT LOANS TO THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND EXTENDING FUTURE AID TO LDCS ON A GRANT BASIS. GILLESPIE SAID SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS IS BEING MADE ON TRADE ISSUES, PARTICULARLY ON TROPICAL PRODUCTS. HE SAID CANADA WAS PREPARED TO UNDERTAKE VOLUME COMMITMENTS ON FOOD AID, IF OTHER GRAIN PRODUCERS DO LIKEWISE, IN ORDER TO ENSURE THE AVAILABILITY TO A MINIMUM LEVEL OF FOOD GRAIN FOR AID. HE ALSO PLEDGED CANADIAN PARTICIPATION IN THE 500,000 TON EMERGENCY GRAIN RESERVE. GILLESPIE CREDITED THE WORK OF THE ENERGY COMMISSION WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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IMPROVING INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING IN THE MANY ASPECTS OF ENERGY. HE CALLED ON OPEC COUNTRIES WITH SURPLUS ASSETS TO INCREASE THEIR AID AND ON ALL LDCS TO ASSUME GREATER RESPONSIBILITY IN THE FUTURE FOR THE SMOOTH FUNCTIONING OF THE CURRENTLY FRAGILE INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC SYSTEM. CANADIAN REP ANNOUNCED

SUPPORT FOR CIEC ACTION TOWARDS A COMMON FUND, NOTING THAT SUCH A FUND MUST BE LINKED TO THE SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION OF INDIVIDUAL COMMODITY AGREEMENTS. HE

SAID GOC HAD PLEDGED ITS PROPER SHARE OF THE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FUND AFTER VIABLE ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN AGREED. FINALLY, GILLESPIE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT RELUCTANCE AND REFUSAL TO TALK ABOUT DEVELOPING COUNTRY RESPONSIBILITIES -- NAMELY SELF-HELP AND THE DUTIES OF THE LDCE IN STRONG REVENUE POSITIONS -- WOULD DISAPPEAR FROM THE DIALOGUE, NOTING THAT THIS WEAKENED EFFORTS TO MOBILIZE POPULAR SUPPORT FOR DEVELOPMENT ISSUES.

12. AUSTRALIAN FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTER ANDREW PEACOCK, REFERRING TO CIEC AS POSSIBLY "ONE OF KEY MEETINGS OF THE LAST DECADES OF THIS CENTURY," REVIEWED HIGHLIGHTS OF CIEC'S FOUR COMMISSIONS. HE SAID AUSTRALIA WILL BE A FUTURE NET EXPORTER OF ENERGY AND CALLED FOR ONGOING DIALOGUE IN ENERGY, SUGGESTING ITS ABSENCE

WOULD REPRESENT A "BLEAK FUTURE" FOR PRODUCERS AND CONSUMERS. PEACOCK PROMISED POSITIVE ACTION BY AUSTRALIA ON THE RECOGNITION OF THE PRINCIPLE OF A COMMON FUND, THE SPECIAL ACTION PROGRAM, AND AFRICAN INFRASTRUCTURE. IN HIS CONCLUDING REMARKS, PEACOCK WARNED AGAINST "UTOPIAN CRITERIA" IN JUDGING, THE SUCCESS OR FAILURE OF CIEC, STRESSING CIEC IS PART OF AN ONGOING PROCESS.

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13. SPANISH MINISTER OREJA AGUIRRE NOTED THE ENORMITY OF THE TASK OF DEALING CONSTRUCTIVELY WITH ALL THE ISSUES OF CIEC. HE APPEALED FOR GREATER INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION, EMPHASIZED THAT THE ENERGY DIALOGUE MUST CONTINUE, SUPPORTED ESTABLISHMENT OF A COMMON FUND FOR PRICE STABILIZATION, AND ANNOUNCED A MODEST SPANISH CONTRIBUTION TO THE SPECIAL ACTION PROGRAM. THE SPANISH MINISTER POINTED TO THE INADQUACY OF THE RIGID CHARACTERIZATION OF THE DIALOGUE BETWEEN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AS A "NORTH/SOUTH DIALOGUE,"

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STATING THAT SPAIN SHARED MANY SIMILARITIES WITH
DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.

14. THE SWEDISH MINISTER STRESSED THE PRIMARY
ELEMENTS OF THE G-8 PACKAGE. SHE EXPRESSED THE HOPE

THAT OUTSTANDING ISSUES COULD BE RESOLVED, INCLUDING FINDING AN ACCEPTABLE FORMULA FOR COMMON FUND LANGUAGE. SHE CONCLUDED BY STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE GREATER UNDERSTANDING THAT HAD EMERGED FROM THE WORK OF THE ENERGY COMMISSION, AND SAID SHE AGREED WITH THE UNITED STATES THAT NUCLEAR ENERGY WAS NOT THE ULTIMATE ANSWER TO THE ENERGY PROBLEM.

15. AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE G-8 SPEECHES, THE SESSION WAS ADJOURNED TO PERMIT THE G-19 TO CAUCUS AND DECIDE ON ITS REPLY. THIS REPLY WILL BE GIVEN AT THE BEGINNING OF THE MAY 31 SESSION AFTER WHICH THREE MINISTERIAL LEVEL WORKING GROUPS -- ENERGY AND FINANCE COMBINED -- WILL BE CONVENED TO TRY TO

NEGOTIATE THE OUTSTANDING DIFFERENCES THE FOUR COMMISSIONS WERE UNABLE TO RESOLVE.
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Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ECONOMIC COOPERATION, LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS, MEETING REPORTS
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977PARIS16014
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770193-1051
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2377410
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIEC MINISTERIAL: FIRST DAY (MAY 30)
TAGS: ENRG, EGEN, ETRD, EFIN, EAID, OECD, CIEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/6563498a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
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Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009